

CITY OF BEDFORD HEIGHTS REGULAR COUNCIL

MAY 6

2008

The City of Bedford Heights Council meeting was held at the City Hall, 5661 Perkins Road on May 6, 2008. Mayor Berger called the meeting to order at 7:36 P.M.

All Present pledged Allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call:	Mayor Berger	Councilwoman Grant
	Councilman Brown	Councilwoman MacKenzie
	Councilman Cody	Councilman Tinker
	Councilwoman Gilliam	Council President Saunders

Absent: None

Also Present:	Fin. Dir. Cegelka	P/S Dir. Bauccho
	Law Dir. Cirincione	Econ. & Comm. Dev. Dir Divito
	Chief Ledford	Bldg. Comm. Konys
	Chief Kalavsky	Comm. Life Dir. Gray
	City Engineer Bierut	Asst. Law Dir. Turner
	W/R Dir. Pocaro	Clerk of Council Stahl

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS NOT YET APPROVED:

MOTION by Grant, second MacKenzie to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2008 Regular Council meeting as received.

Roll Call:	Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders	
	Nays - None	7 yeas - 0 nays
		Motion carried

Mayor Berger announced that he has two presentations to make this evening. He asked Law Dir. Cirincione to read Resolution No. 2008-084, a Resolution of condolence for the family of John J. Creed, in its entirety. Chief Ledford stated for the record that John Creed was an original member of the Fire Department when it was founded in 1962 and is one of the original eight members of this department. He said in his memory, he felt it was appropriate that we recognize his passing in this fashion. Mayor Berger presented Resolution No. 2008-084 to the wife of John J. Creed. Mrs. Creed thanked Mayor and Council for the resolution and said John enjoyed his years as firefighter with the Bedford Heights Fire Department.

Mayor Berger requested that Law Dir. Cirincione read Resolution No. 2008-078, a Resolution of appreciation and commendation to Ron Valore for his 23+ years of service as a Custodian in the Department of Community Life of the City of Bedford Heights, in its entirety. Mayor Berger said it has been a pleasure bringing in new employees during the last four months he has been here, but is an even greater pleasure to have had the first person here who was able to retire. He said that is a certain accomplishment that so many people do not get to the point where they are able to get their flowers presented to them while they can still smell them. He said it is wonderful that he has the opportunity to enjoy his flowers while he can still smell them. He said on behalf of himself and the entire Council body and many of the employees, he appreciates the fact that he has been an employee and is a resident. Mayor Berger presented Resolution No. 2008-078 to Mr. Valore and thanked him for his years of service. Councilwoman MacKenzie congratulated Mr. Valore and said she has enjoyed his friendship and is glad to have him as a resident of Ward 1. Mr. Valore thanked the City of Bedford Heights, Mayor and Council for the 23+ years he has had. He also acknowledged that Lisa Gagliano was his boss for 17 years and said her shoes will never be filled and was an excellent boss. He also said that the person that filled in after that was Nick Bauccho and he did an excellent job. He said those are two of the greatest bosses he has ever had.

Councilman Brown commented that this is a glorious occasion for all of us because anytime you have been on the job for all of those many years giving back to the community, and living as a part

CITY OF BEDFORD HEIGHTS REGULAR COUNCIL

MAY 6

2008

of the community, that becomes a blessing and a good thing for all of us. He said it was a pleasure for us to be invited to his retirement party, but a greater pleasure to have him come back here as we express our gratitude and love to him and his family. He extended our appreciation to him and his family and thanked him for all the service that he has given to this community.

Councilman Cody said we are certainly going to miss Ron for all the years of service.

Councilwoman Grant commented that she appreciates his friendship over the years and thinks he has a great family and wished him good luck.

Barbara Youngblood, 5295 Mardale, said on behalf of the 60+ Club, she wants to tell Ron that we appreciated all of the things that he has done for our club. She said he would set the tables up and would be so obliging to them and thanked him.

Betty Robertson, 5572 Columbia Drive, she said that Ron will be missed. She said whenever she wanted coffee made, Ron was there. She said she never had to ask him twice and she said she will miss him and he does not know how much he was loved by the senior citizens. She said they all depended on him and all looked forward to him being there in the morning. She said it is not the same now.

CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-087

Introduced by: Mayor Berger and Council Members Saunders, Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker

A RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE FOR THE FAMILY OF DAVID J. FINNERTY.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-088

Introduced by: Mayor Berger and Council Members Saunders, Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker

A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING NAVY LEGALMAN SENIOR CHIEF KAREN L. PALLAT ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES NAVY.

MOTION by MacKenzie, second Grant that the rule requiring two readings be waived pursuant to Section 6.06 of the Charter and all items on the Consent Agenda be adopted as presented.

Roll Call: Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
Nays - None 7 yeas - 0 nays
Motion carried

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-090

Introduced by: Mayor Berger and Council Members Saunders, Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF A 2008 FORD F-350 PICKUP & DUMP TRUCK FOR THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT FROM BASS TRUCK CENTER FINANCED BY HUNTINGTON EQUIPMENT FINANCE PURSUANT TO THE STATE OF OHIO PURCHASING PROGRAM.

MOTION by Grant, second Saunders to suspend the rule requiring two readings.

Roll Call: Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
Nays - None 7 yeas - 0 nays

CITY OF BEDFORD HEIGHTS REGULAR COUNCIL

MAY 6

2008

Motion carried

MOTION by Grant, second Saunders to adopt.

Roll Call: Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
Nays - None 7 yeas - 0 nays
Motion carried

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-091

Introduced by: Mayor Berger and Council Members Saunders, Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BEDFORD HEIGHTS TO ACCEPT A GRANT OF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE EQUIPMENT AND A TRAILER TO STORE SAID EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED BY CUYAHOGA COUNTY PURSUANT TO THE 2005 URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE GRANT PROGRAM AND TO TAKE TITLE OF SAID EQUIPMENT AND TRAILER.

MOTION by Grant, second Cody to suspend the rule requiring two readings.

Roll Call: Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
Nays - None 7 yeas - 0 nays
Motion carried

MOTION by Grant, second Cody to adopt.

Roll Call: Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
Nays - None 7 yeas - 0 nays
Motion carried

Councilwoman Grant commented that there will be additional discussion concerning this ordinance because it will help us in our safety emergency preparedness and will be discussed under the Safety Committee.

Mayor Berger said we are involved in developing an emergency preparedness and asked Councilman Brown to give a brief explanation. Councilman Brown said that we are looking at our total safety plan that involves the city. He said we want to make sure that in case of an emergency the City of Bedford Heights is ready at any cost to come to the assistance of our residents. He said there has been a combined effort by Mayor Berger, the Safety Committee, Members of Council, Chief Kalavsky, Chief Ledford and many other department heads as well as the Law Department to make it all inclusive, so that in times of need, all of us will come together along with volunteers of residents. He said we will be getting information out to the residents as soon as we have all of the information gathered we will be presenting it to the Mayor and at that time he will get it out to the community.

ORDINANCE NO. 2008-092

Introduced by: Mayor Berger and Council Members Saunders, Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 139.02 AND 139.03 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES REGARDING PERSONNEL IN THE DIVISION OF BUILDING, ENGINEERING AND INSPECTION, AND SECTION 749.08 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES REGARDING THE HOUSING DELIVERY SYSTEM IN ORDER TO COMBINE THE DUTIES OF THE POSITION OF PART-TIME MULTI-FAMILY AND MAINTENANCE INSPECTOR AND THE DUTIES OF THE FULL-TIME CLERK/HOUSING COORDINATOR OFFICE INTO ONE POSITION TO BE KNOWN AS THE FULL-TIME MULTI-FAMILY AND

CITY OF BEDFORD HEIGHTS REGULAR COUNCIL

MAY 6

2008

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE INSPECTOR PURSUANT TO AMENDED SECTIONS 139.02 AND 139.03, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by MacKenzie, second Saunders to suspend the rule requiring two readings.

Roll Call: Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
Nays - None 7 yeas - 0 nays
Motion carried

MOTION by MacKenzie, second Saunders to adopt.

Roll Call: Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
Nays - None 7 yeas - 0 nays
Motion carried

Mayor Berger said that this will combine a full-time position and two part-time positions into one full-time position which will spend a lot of time focused on the care of the community in terms of housing stock and violations of ordinances. He said you see some of the things we have been trying to do in terms of insisting that people do not put their trash out early. He said we are pursuing some of the issues from grass, to vehicles improperly parked on lawns and a lot of things that the ordinances allow for us to enforce, but you need resources to do that. He said he is appreciative to the Council for recognizing and supporting this.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-093

Introduced by: Mayor Berger and Council Members Saunders, Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE WORK ORDER NOS. 1 AND 2 TO THE BEAR CREEK-RICHMOND ROAD PUMP STATION IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,523.33.

MOTION by Grant, second Saunders to suspend the rule requiring two readings.

Roll Call: Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
Nays - None 7 yeas - 0 nays
Motion carried

MOTION by Grant, second Saunders to adopt.

Roll Call: Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
Nays - None 7 yeas - 0 nays
Motion carried

Mayor Berger noted that Resolution No. 2008-094 and Resolution No. 2008-095 have been tabled.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-096

Introduced by: Mayor Berger and Council Members Saunders, Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, LODGE #67, FOR THE YEARS 2008 THROUGH 2010, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by MacKenzie, second Gilliam to suspend the rule requiring two readings.

Roll Call: Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders

CITY OF BEDFORD HEIGHTS REGULAR COUNCIL

MAY 6

2008

Nays - None

7 yeas - 0 nays
Motion carried

MOTION by MacKenzie, second Gilliam to adopt.

Roll Call: Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
Nays - None 7 yeas - 0 nays
Motion carried

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-097

Introduced by: Mayor Berger and Council Members Saunders, Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, LODGE #67, (SERGEANTS AND LIEUTENANTS), FOR THE YEARS 2008-2010, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Gilliam, second MacKenzie to suspend the rule requiring two readings.

Roll Call: Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
Nays - None 7 yeas - 0 nays
Motion carried

MOTION by Gilliam, second MacKenzie to adopt.

Roll Call: Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
Nays - None 7 yeas - 0 nays
Motion carried

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-098

Introduced by: Mayor Berger and Council Members Saunders, Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker

A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE ACTION OF THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS WITH RESPECT TO THE APPLICATION OF DUANE C. AND DEBORAH J. HUFFMAN FOR A VARIANCE TO BUILD A 1,296 SQUARE FOOT DETACHED GARAGE ON THEIR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 21960 LOUIS ROAD, BEDFORD HEIGHTS, OHIO.

MOTION by Brown, second MacKenzie to suspend the rule requiring two readings.

Roll Call: Yeas - Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
Nays - Brown 6 yeas - 1 nay
Motion carried

MOTION by Brown, second MacKenzie to adopt.

Roll Call: Yeas - Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
Nays - Brown 6 yeas - 1 nay
Motion carried

Councilman Brown commented that he voted no on this issue, not that there is a disagreement with Council. He said he is voting no because we are going to have further discussion on this issue. He said when we go back and look at some of our ordinances, they do not meet today's criteria. He said by him voting no, it starts that process so we can go look at that ordinance to see whether or not the criteria for cars, pickups or vans, which when that ordinance was passed were a lot different in size

CITY OF BEDFORD HEIGHTS REGULAR COUNCIL

MAY 6

2008

versus what the size of automobiles are today. He said we need to look at that ordinance to make sure that it fits the times for garages that may not accommodate the manufactured vehicles for today's time, that is what we will be looking at. He said we are in agreement to moving forward to look at that ordinance along with the Building Department, the Zoning Board of Appeals, all of Council, the Law Department and Mayor.

Councilman Cody commented that this is not the final decision, there are other options that the Huffmans can take. He said that this is not the end of the discussion. He said we have an ordinance put in place for a reason; we cannot have garages twice the size of a home. He said this is something that has to be done to keep consistency throughout the City. He noted that the Huffmans do have other options that they can take and is sure that the Building Department is willing to work with them in terms of allowing them to achieve their goal.

Law Dir. Cirincione said that he spoke with Mrs. Huffman before the meeting and he told her that if it is voted to affirm the Zoning Board's decision, that the Building Department, Mr. Konys and himself would be more than willing to sit down with Mrs. Huffman and her husband to discuss various other alternatives. He said we plan on scheduling that meeting at our mutual conveniences.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, COMMISSION AND COMMITTEES:

MAYOR'S REPORT, Mayor Berger:

Mayor Berger reported that the month of May is a very important month in law enforcement, there are a number of activities that go on. He invited the Chief to share with the community some of the activities and some of the plans for the month of May as it relates to law enforcement. Chief Kalavsky reported that each May, the Bedford Heights Police Department participates in various public safety campaigns as well as awareness initiatives. He said most notable of these events is National Police Week, May 11th-17th. He said during that time, law enforcement officers who have paid the supreme sacrifice are being honored for their efforts and for their loss of life in the performance of their duties. He said that particular week, May 15th has been declared as National Peace Officers Memorial Day. He noted that on that particular day, Federal law requires that all flags at government buildings be flown at half staff. He said that the Mayor has authorized that to be done on that particular day. He said in commemoration of National Police Week, the Police Department locally as well as other departments nationwide will participate in what is known as the Blue Ribbon Campaign. He said we fly blue ribbons on the police cars and ask the public to do so as well as Council and anyone else in support of local law enforcement and especially those who lost their lives. He said it is a display of respect and a symbol to those who have lost their lives in the line of duty. He said he has many of those ribbons available for those who wish to show their support for law enforcement during this particular month. He said also in the month of May, we participate in what is known as the Click It or Ticket Program. He said this particular campaign goes from May 19th - June 1st. He said we will partner with local law enforcement here and statewide and the Ohio Department of Public Safety. He said this is an awareness campaign to increase the usage of seat belts. He noted that currently the 2008 goal is 85% compliance and said we are probably at 81% to date and each year we have increased seat belt usage in the State of Ohio immeasurably. He said it is a great campaign but a great purpose in trying to save lives by encouraging the use of safety belts in your vehicles. He said also in the month of May, we participate in the Take 25 Campaign. He said this campaign is a partnership with the Office of Justice Programs, the COPS Office, where we will address our student youth population at one of the local schools on the issue of abduction and missing and exploited children. He said May 25th has been reserved as National Missing Children's Day. He said we want to do something locally to address the issue of abductions and exploited issues with our children. He said we will spend some time in the school, which we will take 25 minutes to address the student population at Columbus Road School and provide them with some safety tips to avoid becoming victims of abduction and things of that nature. He said that the Mayor has indicated his desire to join us as well in expressing his concern of these matters with our youth today. He said those are the three main initiatives that we will be participating in and welcomes anyone to join us in some of the initiatives that you can.

CITY OF BEDFORD HEIGHTS REGULAR COUNCIL

MAY 6

2008

Mayor Berger asked Chief Kalavsky to explain the process that we are involved with the Prosecutor's Office in terms of additional protection for this children at school. Chief Kalavsky reported that last month, the Mayor, himself and other various law enforcement officials took part in a conference with the County Prosecutor Bill Mason in an initiative that is designed to provide identification kits for our children and our youth here in Bedford Heights as well as the other school district communities. He said it is a very worthy initiative which allows for the preservation and collection of D.N.A. from our youth to be used at a later time in the event that we need to identify missing children here or elsewhere. He said it is a very important initiative and there are a lot of things going on this month relative to the children and preserving them and keeping them safe from the abductors and kidnappers out there. Chief Kalavsky said that all of the initiatives are designed to keep our youth safe in the community.

Mayor Berger said that we are absolutely committed about the statements that we make in protection of our children in this community. He said we want it to be publicly known where we stand on that. He said he would appreciate it if everyone would obtain a ribbon from the Chief before leaving tonight to show your support for our Bedford Heights Police Department as well as all the other police departments in the surrounding areas.

Mayor Berger reported that many of you have noticed the signs around the City that indicate that we are a tree city. He said we have been a tree city for a number of years and it is our effort to continue that. He said for those of you who do not have evidence that we are a tree city, when you come north on 271 and you look to your left, you will see a forest of trees that we are planting. He said we are optimistic that we will be able to put Bedford Heights in some kind of growth on that hillside to beautify that area and we want people when they come into Bedford Heights, Ohio, that they have come to a place where the people who live here care. He asked Nick Bauccho to give a brief explanation as to what being a tree City represents.

P/S Dir. Bauccho reported that on April 30th, the Mayor, himself and a few members of his staff attended a tree ceremony for Tree City U.S.A. in Stow, Ohio and the Mayor accepted the award for 22 years of being a tree City. He said through Council's generous expenditures, noting that we have to spend \$2 per capita for every resident that we have in this City, as well as the hazardous tree removal that we offer to every resident and in-house items such as elevating trees, which counts towards that. He noted that we have to have an Arbor Day ceremony, which last year we held in April with Heskett Middle School, this year we will be doing one next week at the N.C.C.A. School on Aurora Road. He said it is a pleasure to be a part of this noting that there are only 3,000 Tree City U.S.A. communities in the United States. He stated that we were one of 71 other communities that accepted this award and hopefully the City will continue to do this for a long period of time.

Mayor Berger reported that we have a number of things that are going on at the Community Center and for those of you who have not been in the Community Center lately, he said he wants you to go there and see the improvements. He said for anyone who does not have a pass, he is going to give you a courtesy pass to go over there and witness what is going on. He said we have made changes over there and are focused on customer service and making this a fun, safe, enjoyable place for people of all ages to come to. He said he is very pleased to announce that the person who is going to be Mrs. Gray's primary assistant, right hand person, Sports and Leagues Coordinator Derick Polk. Mr. Polk thanked Mayor for having him and said he is glad to be back home. He said he had a great time during the four years he was here before leaving. He said he feels like he has a lot to offer the residents of this community and one of greatest things he has is a passion for what he does. He said this is always something he wanted to do and loves working with kids because kids are our future. He said we need to always have positive programs for them. He thanked Council for supporting him and Mayor Berger for giving him the opportunity to come back home, and Ruth for giving him the opportunity and he is looking forward to continue working with the residents of Bedford Heights. He said his door is always open if you have any concerns or any new programs that you would like to implement. He said thank you for having him and he is glad to be back.

CITY OF BEDFORD HEIGHTS REGULAR COUNCIL

MAY 6

2008

Mayor Berger said that he believes that a leader's responsibility is to articulate the vision that the leader sees as being most advantageous to the people who that leader serves. He said it is critical that the people who hear that vision are able to internalize that vision and understand how they fit in the implementation of that vision. He said he is convinced that Mr. Polk does internalize the vision that he has for this community and the business community and it is a pleasure to bring him back. Mayor Berger reported that it costs \$1.5 million dollars to run that operation at the Community Center. He said we believe the community is worthy of that but it does not do us any good to have the pool at 84 degrees and pay the life guard to sit there if the community does not enjoy the benefits that is provided for them. He said he does not know how many of you have had the opportunity to meet the Community Life Director, Ruth Gray. He said she is working really hard on our behalf and asked her to share some of the exciting things that he wants everyone to support her and the things she is doing and join in with us to make this the kind of community that you want and he wants it to be.

Comm. Life Dir. Gray said that the Center is changing and evolving as we speak. She said one of the up and coming events is May 25th, Pamper Day. She said we look forward to residents coming to this. She said it will be a new experience and different than what we have had in the past. She stated we want to invite residents and women to come, ages 13 and up. She asked men in the audience to purchase your mom, wife, daughter a ticket to Pamper Day. She said we will be able to experience a manicure, a facial, a day in the whirlpool, spa, aerobic exercise, a light lunch and a day of relaxation and treating ourselves. She said the idea is to promote healthy lifestyles, healthy living and using the Community Center as a resource to promote that and encourage people to purchase a membership to come on a daily basis to work on our health. She said she has a membership and it is challenging sometimes to get to the Center, but as we get older, it becomes more important for us to focus on our health and to teach our children to focus on health. She noted that the membership allows us to do that and have asked Derick to pass around the fliers for Pamper Day and encourages everyone to take this opportunity. She said the cost for this event is \$50.00 per person and you get a deal if you purchase two for the price of \$90.00.

Dir. Gray indicated that she has also distributed our new membership brochure for residents of Bedford Heights which outlines the services that we have available and encourages everyone to look it over and select what package best suits your family's needs. She said the City is very accommodating and has something for everyone. She said we have brochures for people who live in the City's School District and also for businesses that are members of the Bedford Heights Chamber of Commerce to see what services we have to offer. She said that she is requesting that you help her market the Community Center for all of the richness that it has available to offer us as individuals, as families, as seniors and as business people. Dir. Gray said that we have a lot of programs going on in the Community Center and looks forward to everyone receiving your program guide in the mail any day now. She said we are also planning on June 28th to have a Family Play Day for the City of Bedford Heights. She said we have a planning committee that meets every Thursday at 6:00 P.M. and invited everyone to come and be a part of planning our activities for that day which will help us to promote Bedford Heights as a wonderful place to work and to play and to live. She said come and enjoy the Community Center and all that it has to offer.

Mayor Berger said he wants everyone to start to get to know who the directors are that help him to be successful with the things that he is attempting to implement. He thanked everyone for their input.

Mayor Berger stated that he wants to talk a little more about Family Fun Day that will be held on June 28th. He said what we have had in the past with Community Days has been a multiple-day event and the attendance has been falling off. He said what we are going to do is present something different, something new. He said last year we spent \$63,550.00 on Community Days; we brought in approximately \$12,000.00. He pointed out that the reality of the situation is that it cost approximately \$50,000.00 to put on Community Days. He said he is not being critical, just giving facts. He said the reality is the situation is in this day and age, we just cannot put \$50,000.00 into those kinds of efforts. He said he feels it is insensitive to do that when he is getting calls from

CITY OF BEDFORD HEIGHTS REGULAR COUNCIL

MAY 6

2008

people concerned about losing their homes or getting a job. He said we will do something different, think about losing \$50,000.00 on a venture versus spending \$10,000.00-15,000.00 on an opportunity, let the community come together at no cost, give away hot dogs, hamburgers, set up free slides for the children, free jumping games, play horseshoes, have music, talent shows, open up the Community Center and let the kids swim for free. He said there are some children in this community that have never been in the swimming pool in the Community Center. He wants the children to have the opportunity to say that they have been in the pool when someone talks about it. He said we are going to give this community a free Family Fun Day.

Mayor Berger said that he knows there are people who like the fact that we shoot off \$19,000.00 worth of fireworks, but every one of these communities around here do not need to shoot off \$19,000.00 worth of fireworks, go somewhere and enjoy somebody else's. He said we need to spend our \$19,000.00 on something else. Mayor Berger said that a lot of people do not necessarily have \$25.00 to give to three kids to go to a carnival. He said he does not care what you hear about what is going on with this Family Fun Day; one thing you can say is you just heard the facts from Fletcher Berger and is happy that we are moving forward. He said he needs everyone's help to do this. He said we are having meetings on Thursdays at 6:00 P.M. at the Community Center and needs a lot of volunteers. He noted that this is a community effort and have something for everyone who wants to do it. He said we want you to come to the meeting now to volunteer and to provide your input.

Mayor Berger reported that last year, after 30 years, was one of the first years that we did not have baseball in our community. He said it was unacceptable and was told that kids in Bedford Heights did not want to play baseball. He said he never believed that and so we have baseball coming back to this community this year. He noted that we have over 250 kids that are going to play baseball. Mayor Berger said we are not raising major league baseball players, we are raising kids and if we can take 250+ kids off the street and put them on a ball diamond, you have to understand the benefit that we will have when we can influence them versus leaving them out on the street to do whatever they want to do.

SAFETY COMMITTEE, Chairman Brown:

Chairman Brown congratulated Mayor Berger on the initiative that is being done to bring our kids in. He said that is a part of our overall safety plan and safety begins with families, with our kids, and our neighbors. He said when we do for the least of those, our kids, that is preparing for the future so that when those of us who are getting older, we know we are still in safe hands. He recognized Nick Bauccho again, referring to Resolution No. 2008-091, authorizing the City of Bedford Heights to accept a grant of emergency assistance equipment and a trailer to store said equipment supplied by Cuyahoga County pursuant to the 2005 Urban Area Security Initiative Grant Program and to take title of said equipment and trailer. He said that equipment and trailer will be housed in our City and right now there is a plan to get other municipalities involved in the system of public safety where this equipment will actually be used. He said the added benefit for the City is if those other municipalities do not take participation with it, it is housed in our City and we will keep the equipment to use in case of an emergency in our City.

Councilwoman MacKenzie reported that the committee met on April 29th, minutes to follow.

FINANCE COMMITTEE, Chairman Saunders:

Chairman Saunders reported that the committee will hold a joint meeting with the Building & Housing Committee on Monday, May 12, 2008 at 6:00 P.M. He invited everyone to attend.

COMMUNITY LIFE COMMITTEE, Chairwoman MacKenzie:

Chairwoman MacKenzie reported that there will be no meeting on Wednesday, May 14th at 6:00 P.M. She noted that youth mentoring for young women will be tomorrow at 6:30 P.M. at the Community Center. She said Pamper Day will be Sunday, May 25th from 12:00 Noon to 5:00 P.M.

CITY OF BEDFORD HEIGHTS REGULAR COUNCIL

MAY 6

2008

PUBLIC SERVICE/WATER RECLAMATION COMMITTEE, Chairwoman Grant:

Chairwoman Grant reported that a meeting was held April 30, 2008, minutes to follow.

MOTION by Grant, second Saunders to authorize Chagrin Valley Engineering to prepare engineering specifications for the Randolph Road Pump Station Improvements.

Roll Call: Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
Nays - None 7 yeas - 0 nays
Motion carried

Chairwoman Grant reported that the trailer that Councilman Brown mentioned is at no cost to the City. She asked Mr. Bauccho to add his comments regarding this issue.

P/S Dir. Bauccho said the Service Directors in Cuyahoga County got together about a year and half ago to try to come up with some kind of mutual aid agreement similar to what the police and fire are doing now in case there is some type of disaster/emergency where the City has exhausted all of everything they could do. He said hopefully working with the Cuyahoga County Emergency Management, we could be dispatched through a dispatching system where we can lend help. He said in trying to do all this, we have applied for some grants and received three trailers, Bedford Heights was asked to host one, which has an assortment of emergency tools, like generators, pumps, hand tools, etc. at a value of \$19,000.00. He said the City of South Euclid and the City of Independence also are hosting a trailer. He noted that the entire package has not been put together, but hopefully in the next few months we will be able to work everything out.

Mayor Berger said that we want everyone to understand that we want to do everything we can in advance of a situation. He said the sirens sound the first Saturday of each month at 12:00 Noon as a test. He said if you hear the siren at a time other than the test date, it indicates to you to turn to a cable station or weather related station for information. Mayor Berger noted that several people have indicated that they have not heard the siren and asked Chief Ledford to speak about that.

Chief Ledford said that the siren is strategically placed and we partnered with seven communities, purchasing 19 sirens so there should be overlap. He said these sirens are not designed to be heard in your house, these are outdoor warning sirens only. He said if you are outside on a day where the weather looks bad and there is a tornado warning issued, that siren should be activated and you should hear it outside. He noted that they operate in a spinning motion with a radius of one mile. He said there is one at Perkins and Aurora, the other is at Metro Court on Solon Road, there is one in Oakwood which covers that southern end and also one in Bedford on Solon Road on the other side of the freeway. He said they have been strategically mapped out so that when they go off, the sound from all of these sirens should hit every community. He said you are not expected to hear it in your house. Chief Ledford indicated that we really need to push the purchase of weather radios noting that they cost about \$20.00. He said when the siren goes off, turn the weather radio on and you will hear the weather alert being broadcast.

PLANNING COMMISSION, Chairman Berger: No Planning Commission meeting in May. He noted there will be a Zoning Board of Review meeting on May 13th at 6:30 P.M.

BUILDING & HOUSING COMMITTEE, Chairwoman MacKenzie: Chairwoman MacKenzie reported that the committee met on April 29th and Ordinance No. 2008-092 came out of that meeting for the position of full-time multi-family and property maintenance inspector position, minutes to follow. She noted that the committee will have a joint meeting with the Finance Committee on May 12th at 6:00 P.M. and will be discussing the Housing Coordinator position and the committee will also meet on May 28th at 6:00 P.M. and there are three items on the agenda for that meeting.

CITY OF BEDFORD HEIGHTS REGULAR COUNCIL

MAY 6

2008

INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE, Chairman Cody:

Chairman Cody reported that a meeting is scheduled for May 14th at 6:00 P.M. to discuss the 2008 Road Resurfacing Program.

LEGISLATIVE/EDUCATION COMMITTEE, Chairwoman Gilliam:

Chairwoman Gilliam reported that the committee met on April 17th, and Resolution No. 2008-092 that was passed earlier this evening was a result of that meeting, minutes to follow. She thanked Councilman Alton Tinker and Councilman James Cody. She noted the committee will also meet on May 15th at 6:00 P.M.

ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, Chairman Tinker:

Ec. & Com. Dev. Chairman Tinker reported that the committee will meet on May 19th at 6:00 P.M. He noted there are three items on the agenda, 1) public/private partnership between the City and businesses, 2) Staffing for Economic Development Department, 3) Job Fair. He announced that there is a new business that just moved into the City at 26601 Richmond Road, Candor Logistics. He said they brought 15 new employees to the City which is good news. Chairman Tinker announced that there have been many articles in the paper about the problems with payday lending companies. He said we have one in the City and noted that the Ohio House passed a Bill that would limit the annual interest rate that the payday lenders charge to 28%. He said many of those lenders charge \$15.00 for every \$100.00 that is borrowed and the interest rate is over 300%. He said this will significantly affect those who do have to borrow. He said we are hopeful that it will pass the Senate by the end of this year so the interest rate will be capped at 28%.

Ec. & Com. Dev. Dir. Tinker reported that he sits on the Board of the Bedford Heights Chamber of Commerce and they are inviting everyone to Business After Hours, on May 15th at 5:30 P.M., cost is \$10.00 for food and cash bar. He said this is way to meet some of the businesses that are in the City. He also noted that the Chamber is having a golf outing on June 13th at Grantwood.

CABLE TELEVISION COMMITTEE, Chairman Brown:

Chairman Brown reported that the BHTV-23 is now featuring the State of the City and a trade union apprenticeship program that is sponsored by a number of our trade unions. He recognized Councilwoman Wendy Grant to give the second half of the report. Councilwoman Grant reported that there are a couple of things going on on the cable channel. She said Time Warner has clustered the television stations and provided an announcement with your cable bill. She said you can go online and print out the actual schedule of what the channels are and notice that several of the channel numbers are higher. She said the sports channel is now at channel 76. She said if you notice your channels are missing, that is the reason. She noted the next Cable T. V. Advisory Committee meeting is May 27th at 7:00 P.M.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, Council President Saunders:

Council President Saunders reported that Council has changed the Committee of the Whole meeting time to 6:00 P.M. and after the Committee of the Whole we conduct the Council meeting at 7:30 P.M. He said in the past, we have held a post-Committee of the Whole meeting after the Council meeting. He said we no longer do this unless it is voted by the majority of Council to conduct a post-Committee of the Whole meeting. He said after the Council meeting, we go home. He said if an Executive Session is to be held, then we will do so after the Council meeting. He said our next Council meeting will be May 20th with the Committee of the Whole meeting starting at 6:00 P.M. and Council meeting on the floor starting at 7:30 P.M. He said most of you know our Law Director, Ross Cirincione, then he introduced our Assistant Law Director Deborah Turner who was in the audience. Council President Saunders announced birthdays in May, Chief Kalavsky on May 28th, Gregory Betts on May 21st. He reported there will be a Veteran's Memorial Dedication on May 26th

CITY OF BEDFORD HEIGHTS REGULAR COUNCIL

MAY 6

2008

at 2:00 P.M. in front of City Hall. Council President Saunders said he will bring good news to the next Council meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mayor Berger reported that we are in the process right now of sending invitations to the Veterans that we have on our list and ask that you disseminate that information to all Veterans so they can all be participants in this event.

NEW BUSINESS:

No Report.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Council President Saunders told residents to look in your mailbox for the new newsletter that is being sent out this week. He said there is a lot of information in this newsletter and is done very well by our Clerk of Council, Pat Stahl. He congratulated her and said she is doing a tremendous job.

MOTION by MacKenzie, second Saunders for a Resolution of condolence for the family of James Norris who is the husband of Jeannette Norris, who is the President of the VMCC Homeowners Association as well as one of our Charter Review members. She noted that he passed away Sunday, information to follow.

Roll Call:	Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
	Nays - None
	7 yeas - 0 nays
	Motion carried

Councilwoman Grant wished all mothers a Happy Mother's Day.

Councilman Brown acknowledged Mrs. JoAnn Toney who is in the audience. He said many of the problems that we have had in Ward 2, Mrs. Toney has always been one of those residents that has always been involved in the City. He said the reason he is mentioning her now is because she will be speaking later and would not speak unless something was deeply on her heart and a concern not only for herself but for others. He said he hopes everyone pays a lot of attention to her when she does speak.

Chief Ledford said when you get your newsletter, please look on page three, there is a Community Emergency Response Team application. He said this is a regional effort with seven communities to build a volunteer core team so when we do have emergencies, we will not overwhelm the City by calling 911. He said in an emergency, you may be able to do small things for yourself like turn off your gas or your water or electric so that the Fire Department does not have to come out and do that. He said please volunteer, you are never too old or too young to be involved in your own community. He said we need people to do filing, set up events, and if you have medical training or background please volunteer.

Mayor Berger said that it is our objective to have community involvement and there is some way that everybody can be involved in something that we have. He said we are trying to put a lot of effort forward to give the residents an opportunity to participate. He requested that his staff members stand to be acknowledged.

INTRODUCTION OF DELEGATIONS OR CITIZENS WISHING TO APPEAR BEFORE COUNCIL:

Mayor Berger introduced Mia Moore of First Energy. Ms. Moore acknowledged P/S Dir. Bauccho

CITY OF BEDFORD HEIGHTS REGULAR COUNCIL

MAY 6

2008

and said he has participated faithfully with First Energy's Annual Forestry Seminar. She said we host a seminar in April every year where over 250 municipal, forestry and education management personnel as well as City Service Directors attend and participate and learn about vegetation management and taking care of trees in their own cities. She said that Nick has been a faithful participant every year and wanted to recognize him since he has received an award of 22 years of forestry for Bedford Heights. She said she is happy to hear about the Service Director's work on safety.

Ms. Moore said when you talk about safety with the electric industry, it is one of their main goals. She noted that they have lost an overhead linesperson last month during the storms. She said it was in their Metropolitan Edison territory, a 32 year old young man with three young children. The Illuminating Company and all of First Energy is going through safety training, and when you talk about safety it is important to them. She reminded the residents of the City of Bedford Heights that when they have backup generators that they utilize during electrical outages, that is something that the Illuminating Company would like to know about. She asked that people call their call center at 1-800-589-3101 and is something that you may want to include in your newsletter. She said what happens is when there are outages and a customer installs a backup generator, there is a potential to have backfeed on the line and when their overhead linesperson goes out to perform work, they think that the line is de-energized but it actually has been energized with your backup portable generator or permanent generator. She said that would be very helpful to them.

Councilman Brown asked Ms. Moore if she could write out a short statement and we will put it on our cable program as public information. Ms. Moore noted that they have an energy star program, which is an offer to residents to have an energy audit at their homes. She said there is a cost and there are various contractors that are participating with First Energy in this program. She said they come out to your home and evaluate it for its energy integrity noting that there is a cost and First Energy Corp. is offering a discount of \$125.00 for the performance of this energy audit. She said you need to verify this particular contract. She said once they perform the evaluation, they will provide you with a report on the integrity of your home and will talk to you about upgrading or buying new appliances. She noted that there are rebates that are available on new energy star appliances.

Mayor Berger asked Ms. Moore to address the college degree program that First Energy is offering. Ms. Moore said that they participated in the Job Fair and had at least one candidate that attended their orientation this past February. She said First Energy has a power systems institute, where they educate young men and women to become overhead lines personnel or substation personnel. She said they are looking for young candidates that are interested in attending a two-year college, either Tri-C or Lakeland Community College where the program is being held. She said the program is like any other Associate Degree program that begins in September and lasts for two years. She said the student will end up with an electrical technology degree. She said the course usually runs two and a half days in a clinical classroom-type atmosphere and two and a half days in hands-on training. She said they host the orientation in November and in February for the upcoming school year. She noted that they get over 300 students along with their parents at the two and a half orientation forums. She said they describe what it means to be an overhead lines person or substation person. Ms. Moore said that the tuition, books, and flame retardant clothing is paid for by First Energy. She said they participate in the summer internship program where they earn \$15.00 per hour and upon graduation, they are offered a position where they can earn up to \$45,000.00 per year. She said they are looking for candidates and noted that the average age of the electric industry worker is 51 and they will be retiring in the next five to ten years.

Mayor Berger asked Ms. Moore to provide the information to his office so he can provide it to residents looking for employment. Councilman Cody asked that she provide the information to the Clerk also.

Councilwoman Grant asked if the program information is disseminated to the various high schools because Bedford Schools has career planning and placement and two year programs. Ms. Moore

CITY OF BEDFORD HEIGHTS REGULAR COUNCIL

MAY 6

2008

said that they are trying to do better about getting into local schools.

JoAnn Toney, 24049 Kennedy Drive, commented that she is here tonight concerning the summer camp program. She said the application states that all of the fees have to be pre-paid which amounts to \$1,500.00 and understood that last year you could pay per week. She said now it is \$190.00 per session plus \$30.00 for the bus.

Mayor Berger said that there must be some misunderstanding and asked that Dir. Gray explain the way the program works.

Dir. Gray said that last year the summer camp programs began in May so most participants had to pay the initial fee over the graduation of the program and was a nightmare. She said this year, we established the program very early and opened registration March 1st and was broken down into four two week sessions. She said the cost is less than the YMCA and other daycare facilities in the community. She said you must pay your first registration up front and any other subsequent sessions that you wanted, you put a \$50.00 deposit on it and start to pay that off so by the time summer camp came along, all of your fees for the sessions that you wanted would be paid and would not be a burden on the parents. She said last year it was burdensome on parents because they had to come up with an exuberant fee and there were times where we were collecting fees after the week’s service had been provided. She said this year, we started early and put people on payment plans and asked them to identify how they wanted to pay. She said we want people to pay before the summer camp starts so that we can know how many children we have. Discussion followed and Mayor Berger asked Dir. Gray to review the summer camp application with Mrs. Toney.

Deborah Huffman, 21960 Louis Road, thanked everyone for their time concerning her garage and thanked Councilman Brown for taking the time to help them get to this point. She said she hopes that he can change the garage standards and thinks it needs to be updated.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Grant, second Gilliam to adjourn the Council meeting at 9:30 P.M.

Roll Call: Yeas - Brown, Cody, Gilliam, Grant, MacKenzie, Tinker, Saunders
Nays - None 7 yeas - 0 nays
Motion carried

APPROVED: _____
Mayor Fletcher D. Berger

ATTEST: _____
Patricia F. Stahl, Clerk of Council